

EXTENSIONS OF REMARKS

GLOBAL ANTI-POACHING ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY McCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, November 2, 2015

Ms. McCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, illegal poaching has hit a crisis point for many of the world's most iconic species. Nearly 100 elephants are being slaughtered each day by ivory poachers. The black market sale of rhino horn and trafficking in infant gorillas is driving these species to the brink of extinction. H.R. 2494, the Global Anti-Poaching Act, takes critical steps to strengthen the punishments for poaching and wildlife tracking.

The United States is a leader in the fight to protect endangered and threatened species around the world, and this legislation continues that legacy. This bill will ensure that the full strength of the U.S. criminal justice system can be brought to bear against those who seek to kill, trade, or otherwise profit from the furs, pelts, skins, or other body parts of protected species. The profits from this illegal trade are often used to fund terrorist or criminal activities, making the tougher enforcements in this bill an issue of national security as well.

Additionally, this bill creates important partnerships with nations around the world to lend our country's expertise in countering wildlife trafficking to local law enforcement officials on the ground. By engaging partners across national boundaries, coordinating resources, and sharing intelligence, this legislation would make anti-poaching efforts around the world more efficient and more effective.

Poaching is a big business in the criminal world that threatens species across the globe. This legislation steps up America's efforts to ensure the protection of endangered species and crack down on this black market industry. I thank Mr. ROYCE, as the author of this bill and our founding co-chair on the International Conservation Caucus, for his leadership on this issue, and I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 2494.

HONOR OUR VETERANS

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Men and Women of The Armed Forces. We give thanks to them and their families, who live and die and carry the burdens of war for all that we hold dear. Bless them. I submit this poem penned in their honor by Albert Carey Caswell.

Honor our Veteran's
One day is not enough.
Somehow one day of the year does not seem just.

Honor our Veteran's each day of the year
For they fight and die for all of us here
For all of those freedom's that we hold dear
Honor our Veteran's not one,
but every day of the year

For they are ones,
who must live with all of those tears
For all of their Brothers and Sisters In Arms
they have lost here.

And who awake in the night with all of those nightmares.

Whose families who must now live in fear
Not knowing whose going,
or ever coming back here
Honor our Veteran's every day of the year.

For those are ones,
who must lay in hospital beds when its all said and done

With all of their families holding their daughters and sons.

And their Husbands and Wives.
The Greatest Loves of their lives.

So all in tears.

Teaching Us.

Beseeching Us.

All about honor and duty,
and courage so clear.

Who against all odds now cling to life here.
The ones who have died.

Who live without arms and legs as they try.
With scars on their faces

And all places

Living in darkness losing their sight.

Carried with them for the rest of their lives.
Some how it does not seem right.

That we only take one day to make honor of them who fight the fight.

America's most magnificent of all lights.
Who give the greatest gifts of sacrifice.

Honor our Veteran's every day and night
I bid you to please

To fall to your knee's

And say a prayer of thanks for all of these

Buy them a drink.

Buy them a meal.

Put your arm around them and let them know how you feel.

Go up to them and their families,
and tell them how much they mean.

Because all that they ask.

Are these two words from yours lips to so pass.

Thank you.

Yea, one day not enough.

For all of our freedoms of which they bought.

One day just somehow does not seem just.

For all that they've taught.

Honor our Veteran's every day of the year.

Say a prayer of thanks,

and for them and their families shed a tear.
Honor our Veteran's every day of the year.

HONDURAN CIVIL SOCIETY DEMANDS INDEPENDENT INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION TO INVESTIGATE AND END CORRUPTION AND IMPUNITY

HON. JAMES P. McGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. McGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, in September I traveled to Honduras as part of a

fact-finding delegation organized by the Washington Office on Latin America. Everywhere we went we heard about people's concern over endemic corruption and impunity.

An unprecedented citizens' movement has inspired thousands of Hondurans to take to the street in peaceful protest marches demanding that Honduras establish an international, independent commission with the mandate to investigate crimes of corruption and impunity and the ability to participate in their prosecution. This type of a commission is modeled on the successful work over the past decade of the "CICIG" in Guatemala.

This movement is called the "outraged opposition," or "Oposición Indignada." They are led, in large part, by an intelligent, thoughtful and politically diverse group of young people who organize using social media and who have come together because of their shared desire to end corruption in their country. They now face constant threats for their initiative, and I hope that the Honduran government will ensure their protection and investigate the threats against them so that they may continue to exercise their basic rights to freedom of speech and association.

On September 28th, the Organization of American States presented to the Honduran president a proposal for a commission that would help the notoriously weak Honduran judicial system to gain capacity to carry out its responsibilities. Regrettably, I believe this proposal falls woefully short of what is required to break the culture of corruption and impunity that so characterizes the Honduran State. As we learned from Guatemala, to successfully bring to justice those who benefit from corruption and impunity, a commission must be truly independent with a mandate to investigate exemplar cases wherever the evidence warrants and participate in the prosecution of those cases under national law.

Last week, on October 28th, a broad coalition of Honduran civil society, the Coalition Against Impunity, issued a statement declaring that the mission proposed by the OAS and the government is itself an obstacle to creating a genuine, independent commission that can truly tackle the rampant corruption and impunity in Honduras. Earlier, on October 4th, the "Indignados" issued a similar critique, pointing out the weaknesses of the OAS proposal to independently investigate crimes of corruption and ensure their prosecution.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to submit a copy of the letter addressed to the OAS by the Oposición Indignada that outlines their concerns with that proposal. It is my hope that the OAS will listen seriously to this unprecedented citizens' movement and ensure that any commission that comes into being in Honduras will be truly politically and financially independent, and have the mandate to undertake independent investigations into crimes of corruption and impunity and ensure their prosecution.

(English translation of the letter written in Spanish is as follows:)

• This "bullet" symbol identifies statements or insertions which are not spoken by a Member of the Senate on the floor.

Matter set in this typeface indicates words inserted or appended, rather than spoken, by a Member of the House on the floor.

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS,
4 de octubre de 2015.

Mr. LUIS ALMAGRO,
Secretary General of the Organization of American States (OAS), Washington, DC.

We respectfully write to you to provide an official response to the proposal made by the Organization of American States (OAS) to create a "Support Mission against Corruption and Impunity" or "MACCIH" in Honduras. We consider the proposal to contain many weaknesses and insufficient to combat corruption in Honduras.

The weaknesses we see in the proposal include:

1. It lacks an independent and impartial investigative unit capable of carrying out investigations of cases of corruption. Such a unit needs to be financially and politically independent and be comprised of international investigators and lawyers who can work with national prosecutors in the prosecution of high-level corruption cases.

2. The recommendations that will flow from the evaluations to be carried out by the MACCIH are not binding. It is essential to ensure the legal commitment of the Honduran government to implementing the recommendations. Recent history has shown that the government of Honduras often fails to comply with the recommendations of international bodies. An illustrative example was the failure to comply with the 47th recommendation of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission which called for the creation of an International Commission against Impunity in Honduras.

3. Since 1998, Honduras has participated in three of the four rounds of the MESICIC (Follow-up mechanism for implementations of the Inter-American Convention Against Corruption). Despite this participation, the country is in a state of deep social crisis with endemic levels of the corruption and impunity [and so the proposal to develop a plan for implementing the MESICIC does not seem likely to lead to action.]

4. The presentation of bi-annual reports by the Secretary General of the OAS represents an unnecessary delay in addressing the impunity and corruption crisis.

Considering these weaknesses, any proposal intended to lead to real results in the fight against corruption needs to have at least two essential components:

1. A politically and financially independent investigative unit able to initiate and help prosecute high-level corruption cases.

2. A mechanism by which recommendations have a binding character in order to ensure the implementation of reforms to our justice system.

If the OAS proposal fails to include the characteristics needed to make a valuable contribution to the corruption and impunity crisis in Honduras, we will ask the international community not to support the proposal financially or politically. We need a proposal that can help bring about changes in our society; we want justice and democracy.

CITIZEN MOVEMENT
"OPOSICIÓN INDIGNADA,"
PAUL EMILIO ZEPEDA,
GABRIELA LILIANA BLEN,
MARCELA ALEJANDRA
ORTEGA,
ARIEL FABRICIO VARELA.

TEGUCIGALPA, HONDURAS,
4 de octubre de 2015.

Sr. LUIS ALMAGRO,
Secretario General de la Organización de Estados Americanos Su despacho.

Nos dirigimos respetuosamente a usted a fin de señalar nuestras observaciones a la propuesta generada por la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) ante la crisis so-

cial provocada por las altas tasas de corrupción e impunidad que aquejan al Estado de Honduras, propuesta denominada "MACCIH", misma que cuenta con una serie de debilidades que nos preocupan seriamente como herramienta para luchar contra la corrupción y la impunidad en Honduras, subrayando:

1. No cuenta con un ente independiente e imparcial de investigación de los casos de corrupción. Es de vital importancia contar con una unidad con independencia presupuestaria y jerárquica donde investigadores y abogados internacionales junto con fiscales hondureños de reconocida capacidad puedan realizar la investigación y judicialización de actos de corrupción.

2. Las recomendaciones producto de los diagnósticos a realizarse no tienen carácter vinculante. Es necesario que exista obligación por parte del Estado de Honduras para el cumplimiento de las recomendaciones a través del documento legal pertinente, la historia reciente ha demostrado que el Gobierno de Honduras no cumple las recomendaciones de organismos internacionales, resaltamos como ejemplo la recomendación número 47 de la Comisión de la Verdad y Reconciliación, que expresaba el establecimiento de una Comisión Internacional Contra la Impunidad en Honduras, hecha pública en Tegucigalpa, el 7 de Julio de 2011, en acto al cual asistieron el presidente de dicha comisión, Sr. Eduardo Stein, el Secretario General de la OEA en ese momento Sr. Jose Miguel Insulza y el entonces Presidente de Honduras, Sr. Porfirio Lobo Sosa.

3. Los resultados de la participación de Honduras desde 1998 en 3 de las 4 rondas del MESICIC, es un estado en crisis profunda de Impunidad y corrupción consecuencia de lo señalado anteriormente, por la falta de voluntad de los gobernantes en el cumplimiento de recomendaciones no vinculantes.

4. La creación de informes de manera semestral al Secretario General de la OEA para señalar obstáculos no resueltos por el enlace de gobierno, representa una dilatación enorme a la solución de la crisis de impunidad y corrupción en Honduras, sobretodo porque al carecer de vinculación el obstáculo no podrá resolverse aún este se vea reflejado en dichos informes.

En vista de lo anteriormente expuesto, consideramos que toda propuesta que busque resultados reales en la lucha contra la corrupción, debe contar con dos elementos esenciales:

1. Un ente de investigación independiente política y económicamente, que se encargue de esclarecer y llevar a juicio a los implicados en los casos de corrupción que sacuden nuestra sociedad.

2. Carácter de cumplimiento obligatorio a las recomendaciones que resulten de los diagnósticos al Estado de Honduras, si no hay una obligación no hay seguridad que las recomendaciones se ejecuten y por consiguiente la crisis continuara.

En caso de que esta iniciativa no logre implementar características que le permitan aportar a resolver la crisis de Impunidad y Corrupción que enfrenta Honduras, rechazamos formalmente dicha propuesta.

Finalmente, señalar que la propuesta de una Comisión Internacional Contra la Impunidad (CICI) se mantiene vigente como una herramienta eficiente y como un caso de éxito internacionalmente comprobado, ya que cuenta con características de investigación y fortalecimiento de las capacidades nacionales para la lucha contra la Impunidad y Corrupción, en contextos institucionales similares a los que tenemos en Honduras, a diferencia de la denominada MACCIH que aun es solo un ensayo no

comprobado y que carece de las características previamente señaladas.

Sin otro particular y expresando nuestras más altas muestras de respeto y estima, nos despedimos de usted.

Atentamente,
OPOSICIÓN INDIGNADA,
PAUL EMILIO ZEPEDA,
GABRIELA LILIANA BLEN,
MARCELA ALEJANDRA
ORTEGA,
ARIEL FABRICIO VARELA.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, yesterday, on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, I recorded an erroneous vote on the amendment offered by Mr. RIBBLE of Wisconsin. I intended to vote "no" on roll call vote No. 588, on agreeing to the Ribble Amendment to H.R. 22.

IN RECOGNITION OF JEAN
MRASEK

HON. PETE SESSIONS

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SESSIONS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the work of an outstanding Texan, Jean M. Mrasek, as she recently concluded her distinguished work as Chairman of the National Panhellenic Conference (NPC).

This conference represents 26 sororities with a member base of more than four million women at 655 campuses and 4,500 alumnae chapters in the United States and Canada. Sororities and fraternities are the largest values-based organizations on college campuses and among the most successful leadership development programs for college students. National sororities are the largest women's leadership organizations on hundreds of campuses and they continue to grow because of the value they provide in helping collegiate women become better scholars, leaders, and citizens.

As Chairman of NPC, Jean was a leading voice on contemporary issues of sorority life and for all collegiate women. As a proud University of Tulsa alumna and past national president of her sorority Chi Omega, Jean's unyielding passion for Greek life is reflected in her lifetime commitment to serving others. Under her leadership, NPC has increased their membership, developed a new visual identity as part of a new communications plan, created new forms of risk-management education, and furthered the organizational effectiveness of the sorority world, speaking for the interests of college women everywhere. Jean's long-term commitment to her Chi Omega chapter, its international organization, and the entire Greek community make her a role model for women who aspire to make a difference in the lives of other women.

I have personally had the opportunity to work with Jean over the years as she has come to Washington to tirelessly advocate for students across the country on issues ranging

from college affordability, improving student housing, preserving the vital role of charitable support for higher education, and fighting to make campuses safer for all students. Jean Mrasek has provided exemplary service in advancing the NPC's ability to positively influence the lives of so many collegiate women.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my esteemed colleagues to join me in wishing her all the best in her future endeavors.

HONORING MARIANO ULIBARRI,
DIRECTOR OF THE LAS VEGAS
PARACHUTE FACTORY

HON. BEN RAY LUJÁN

OF NEW MEXICO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. BEN RAY LUJÁN of New Mexico. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Mariano Ulibarri, Director of the Parachute Factory of Las Vegas, for his outstanding work in youth community engagement.

Mr. Ulibarri is the founder of the Parachute Factory, a community makerspace that has quickly made itself a staple in the Las Vegas community. A makerspace is an area where individuals are able to congregate and engage in creative, do-it-yourself projects that provide beneficial skills and goods for their home communities. After hearing about "Hacker Scouts," an Oakland, California based organization, Mr. Ulibarri was inspired to start a local chapter within the Las Vegas community. Guild #005 has provided the youth of Las Vegas with the opportunity to educate their fellow community members by hosting demonstrations with local groups such as woodworkers and through cultural skills workshops and a variety of other beneficial events.

The Parachute Factory works in partnership with the Media Arts/Tech Department at New Mexico Highlands University and the New Mexico State Library. This organization has been recognized by esteemed entities, such as Harvard University's Graduate School of Education, for its innovative approach and effective practices toward progressive community engagement and learning. At a time where our country needs to invest in more Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) education and skill building for youth, minorities, and women, the Parachute Factory stands as a shining example for others to emulate. Mr. Ulibarri is currently in Washington, D.C. attending the "National Science Foundation's 2015 Maker Summit." His organization is among 30 groups selected from across the nation that will have the distinct honor of presenting about their charitable work.

I applaud Mr. Ulibarri's service to the community and efforts to provide mentoring and learning opportunities for young, tech savvy children. I congratulate Mr. Ulibarri and the Parachute Factory, and thank the entire organization for its exceptional service to our community.

EXPRESSING CONCERN WITH FINANCIAL TRAPS AIMED AT VETERANS

HON. JUDY CHU

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. JUDY CHU of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to speak for veterans as we approach Veterans Day this year. These brave men and women risked their lives to protect us all. Yet, today we have companies actively preying on veterans. This is appalling and needs to end.

Some of the worst offenses come from payday lenders. Payday loans are high-cost, small-dollar loans, averaging \$300 per loan. What makes these loans so dangerous is that they have average interest rates in the triple digits—at times as high as 391 percent. If at the end of the loan period, which typically spans two weeks or the next payday, the borrower cannot pay it off, he or she will be forced to take out another loan to pay off the first loan in addition to the exorbitant accumulated interest. This is the beginning of a cycle of debt.

Veterans are highly susceptible to these practices and have become a customer base for these loan schemes. In fact, payday lenders have been known to set up around military bases. In 2006, Congress passed the Military Lending Act to cap interest rates for military loans, but even so, these lenders find ways to exploit servicemembers, veterans, and military families. One study found that 10 percent of veterans leave military service with more than \$40,000 in debt. If our men and women heed the call to defend our country, they should not be led to financial traps that could prevent them from transitioning to civilian life successfully.

This Veterans Day, I stand with veterans and urge both the private lending sector and Congress to do more to protect our veterans, who deserve our utmost respect.

HONORING THE ZARZYCKI MANOR
CHAPELS ON THEIR 100TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. DANIEL LIPINSKI

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. LIPINSKI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to extend my congratulations to the Zarzycki Manor Chapels as they commemorate 100 years of dedicated service to the people of Chicagoland.

For a century, Zarzycki Manor Chapels has stood as a pillar of support for Chicagoland families in their times of hardship and grief. The Zarzycki Manor Chapels' motto is "Modern Service with Traditional Dignity." By treating every family with care and respect, the Zarzycki family has earned the admiration and gratitude of the community.

Zarzycki Funeral Home was founded in 1915 by Ms. Agnes S. Zarzycki; a Polish immigrant and the first woman funeral director of Polish descent in Chicago. Ms. Zarzycki and her husband Stanislaw ran the funeral parlor out of their home throughout the early years of

the business. Early on they withstood hard times and remained dedicated to helping grieving families throughout the influenza epidemic. After Stanislaw's death in 1927, Agnes continued to run the Zarzycki Funeral Home through the Great Depression.

Agnes and Stanislaw had five children. Their son Casimir took over the business and expanded it, creating the Zarzycki Manor Chapels. After many successful years, Casimir turned the business over to his son, Richard. Richard and his wife Charmaine worked together at the Zarzycki Manor Chapels for over 35 years.

In 2006, Richard passed away leaving the business to Charmaine and their two daughters, Claudette and Andrea. As third and fourth generation female funeral directors, they admirably uphold the founder's legacy of strength, independence, and hard work.

Today I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing the 100th anniversary of the Zarzycki Manor Chapels and honoring the Zarzycki family for the care and comfort they provide to so many in the community.

THE GOFFSTOWN GRIZZLIES
FOOTBALL TEAM

HON. FRANK C. GUINTA

OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. GUINTA. Mr. Speaker, I rise to salute the Goffstown Grizzlies football team in New Hampshire's First District. The Grizzlies, representing Goffstown High School with just a thousand students, have an amazing story of perseverance and achievement.

Thanks to their coach, the team qualified for a Division 3 championship a few years ago and advanced to Division 1, the toughest in the Granite State. Even their fans thought competing at that high level would be a tall order.

The Grizzlies are undefeated this season. They enter Saturday's Division 1 playoff game ranked number one. It will be their first home playoff game. And they got there with exciting defense and special teams play, blocking punts and returning kickoffs for touchdowns.

They have the Granite State's fiercest line-backing crew and the sack leader. Their kicker boots 45-yard field goals, helping his team to average more than 42 points a game. The running back rushed for a thousand yards this season and scored over twenty touchdowns. The Grizzlies have New Hampshire's most potent passing attack.

Their spirited fans make it easy to be a Grizzlies fan, not that you'd need any more reason to like this impressive team of underdogs, who take on the Second District's North Nashua Titans this weekend.

I wish both teams well but the Grizzlies a little better.

HONOR VETERANS BY STOPPING
THE DEBT TRAP

HON. ZOE LOFGREN

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. LOFGREN. Mr. Speaker, in honor of Veterans Day next week I would like to speak-

out against predatory lending practices that target our nation's veterans. Earlier this year, the Department of Defense finalized its rules under the Military Lending Act that would protect our service members and their families from the endless cycle of debt frequently created by payday loans.

However, the MLA does not provide these same protections to those brave women and men who have already served their country. There are already many challenges for veterans reentering civilian life. The threat of being taken advantage of by unscrupulous lenders does not need to be added to the list.

It is within the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau's authority to protect our veterans from the predatory payday lending industry. They must act to end the dangerous payday loan debt trap by creating strong consumer protections and encouraging innovative alternatives for veterans who need short-term, emergency loans to make ends meet.

It is my hope that the CFPB will make this issue a priority and quickly provide the financial protections our veterans deserve.

**RECOGNIZING LANCE CORPORAL
BRANDON RUMBAUGH FOR RAISING
AWARENESS FOR OUR NATION'S
HOMELESS VETERANS**

HON. BILL SHUSTER

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SHUSTER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Lance Corporal Brandon Rumbaugh for his service to our country and his dedication to raising awareness for our nation's homeless veterans.

Following two combat deployments and the loss of his legs in the line of service in Afghanistan, Brandon has begun a remarkable campaign to raise awareness about the difficulties many veterans face after returning home from deployment, namely homelessness. On November 1, 2015, the anniversary of his injury, Brandon started his journey to advocate for homeless veterans by living exclusively on the streets of Uniontown for the month.

Through his efforts, Brandon hopes to raise awareness and educate the public about the challenges and employment needs veterans face when they come home. It is my privilege to help Brandon bring awareness to this issue, as the plight veterans face continues to go unaddressed in many places across the country.

Today I am honored to thank Brandon for his service to our nation as well as his dedication to his fellow veterans. He is hero and a role model for all of us. Furthermore, I am hopeful his efforts will help illustrate the necessity for continued local, state, and national responses to the needs of our veterans.

IRANIAN HOSTAGE CRISIS

HON. TED POE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, November 4th marks the anniversary of an important date in U.S.-Iranian relations.

On this date in 1979, only a few months after the Shah was deposed and the radical, anti-American, Islamist Ayatollah Khomeini was placed in power, a group of young Islamic revolutionaries made their anger with the United States known to the world.

The group stormed the U.S. Embassy in Tehran and took over 60 American hostages. The revolutionaries were angry about President Carter's decision to allow the recently ousted Shah into the U.S. for cancer treatment and general American interference in their affairs.

Hostages were blindfolded, bound, beaten, sometimes tortured, subjected to solitary confinement and unsanitary conditions, and even underwent mock executions.

Richard Morefield, the Consul General of the U.S. Embassy in Tehran recounted that he was subjected to three mock executions, the first being on his second night in captivity.

He was awakened in the middle of the night, herded into a van with other hostages, driven somewhere, dragged into a shower room, seated on a bench, and made to think he would die there and then.

Al Golacinski, John Limbert, and Rick Kupke were also subjected to mock executions. They too were awakened in the middle of the night, forced to remove their clothing, blindfolded and marched into a basement where the callous guards made it seem they were about to be executed by firing squad. The guards pulled their triggers to their unloaded weapons and laughed.

These hostages lived in emotional and physical turmoil for 444 days.

Though 13 of the hostages were released after a short time, diplomatic means to free the rest of the hostages failed. President Carter tried to build pressure through economic sanctions and frozen assets.

Then, Ronald Reagan was elected president. Minutes after his inauguration, the Iranians freed the remaining hostages.

This event left a lasting impression on American foreign policy.

Sanctions that began as a result of the Iranian hostage crisis increased over 36 years as Iran built up its illegal nuclear weapons program, conducted terrorist attacks against innocent civilians around the world, and violated the human rights of its own people.

That is until President Obama decided to ease sanctions on this enemy nation as part of a disastrous new "deal." On this November 4, 36 years after the start of the hostage crisis, we have not forgotten. And, we have not forgiven.

And that's just the way it is.

**RECOGNIZING KIN ON FOR THEIR
30 YEARS OF SERVICE**

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the Kin On organization and its thirty years of service to the senior citizens of the Seattle area.

From the beginning, Kin On has been an important part of our community and has been integral to serving seniors with respect and dignity. Through their provision of health, so-

cial, and education services, Kin On encourages Asian adults and seniors to remain mentally, physically, and socially active. Programs like these are models for other care facilities, as they keep seniors engaged and healthy in comprehensive and culturally sensitive ways.

It is also encouraging to know that Kin On will expand its services and facilities in Seattle, expanding their capacity to serve the community. I am confident that the addition of a community center, assisted living, and adult family home—as well as a short-term rehab and sun room—will greatly enhance the experiences of those who benefit from Kin On's wide array of services.

Once again, I want to thank Kin On for its service and congratulate them on thirty years of hard work and success in serving our senior community. I look forward to hearing about their future accomplishments.

**CONGRATULATING SHERRY
LEVESQUE ON HER 40-YEAR
BOWLING CAREER**

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Sherry Levesque of Springfield, Missouri, on her successful 40-year career of dedication to the growth of bowling in our community and to wish her a happy retirement.

Since 1996, Sherry has worked at Andy B's bowling lanes in Springfield, but has been around the sport in many capacities since 1975. In the early part of her career, she became the first woman to ever tally a 300 score at Hazelwood Bowl and was featured on television in competition at the old Arena Bowl. While her career as a competitive bowler is remarkable, however, it is Sherry's dedication to bring others into the sport that makes her truly unique.

After moving to Springfield in 1982, she began working at Walnut Bowl (now Light-house Lanes) building their junior bowling program. At that position, she also became the director of the Greater Springfield American Bowlers Congress and Greater Springfield Women's International Bowling Congress. Then, she started more youth programs upon moving to Century Lanes in 1987, which ultimately earned her a distinguished service induction into the Springfield Women's Bowling Association in 1994. Around the same time, she was named president of the Missouri State Youth Bowling Association.

After being named General Manager of Andy B's in 1997, she continued cultivating the area bowling community and was named Manager of the Year by the Bowling Proprietors Association of America in 2012.

Mr. Speaker, I extend my appreciation to Sherry for the invaluable positive impact she has made on so many young people in my district, and wish her a happy—and well-earned—retirement. The way in which she used her passion of bowling to touch so many lives for the better truly serves as an example of the human spirit we can all learn from and makes me proud to represent her and the rest of Missouri's Seventh Congressional District.

OUR UNCONSCIONABLE NATIONAL DEBT

HON. MIKE COFFMAN

OF COLORADO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. COFFMAN. Mr. Speaker, on January 20, 2009, the day President Obama took office, the national debt was \$10,626,877,048,913.08.

Today, it is \$18,492,091,120,833.99. We've added \$7,865,214,071,920.91 to our debt in 6 years. This is over \$7.5 trillion in debt our nation, our economy, and our children could have avoided with a balanced budget amendment.

RECOGNIZING HABITAT FOR HUMANITY OF TACOMA AND PIERCE COUNTY FOR THEIR 30 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Habitat for Humanity of Tacoma and Pierce County for their thirty years of invaluable housing assistance and support to families throughout our region.

Since 1985, this organization has been dedicated to building quality and affordable housing for families from all walks of life, offering an opportunity for families who are otherwise unable to obtain proper financing to achieve their dream of homeownership.

In order to qualify for a home, families must contribute five hundred hours on the construction of their or someone else's home, which in turn fosters a sense of ownership and a greater sense of unity in the community. In the last year alone, the organization built fourteen new homes and renovated almost a dozen others, providing a better living situation for over eighty adults and children.

This positive impact on the lives of families would not have been possible without the vision and devotion that Habitat for Humanity of Tacoma and Pierce County and its countless volunteers have shown. They have played a key role in making Pierce County a better place to live—both for their clients and the community at large.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the work of Habitat for Humanity of Tacoma and Pierce County on their thirtieth anniversary as a positive contributor to the community. Their commitment to lifting up the lives of so many Pierce County families over three decades is admirable and I look forward to their future positive impacts.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE 150TH ANNIVERSARY OF MONTGOMERY EMANCIPATION OBSERVANCES

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF ALABAMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. ROGERS of Alabama. Mr. Speaker, I ask for the House's attention today to recog-

nize the 150th anniversary of the Montgomery community observing the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation which started on January 1, 1866.

On January 1, 2002, a historic marker was placed at One Court Square in downtown Montgomery to help highlight Montgomery's first observance. On January 1, 2016, the Emancipation Association of Montgomery will once again celebrate the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in wishing the Emancipation Association of Montgomery as well as the City of Montgomery a memorable 150th anniversary celebrating the signing of the Emancipation Proclamation.

HONORING DRS. AZIZ SANCAR AND PAUL MODRICH

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate the University of North Carolina School of Medicine's Dr. Aziz Sancar and Duke University School of Medicine's Dr. Paul Modrich on receiving the 2015 Nobel Prize for chemistry.

This is a remarkable accomplishment for Drs. Sancar and Modrich and for the universities and researchers who support their work. As a UNC graduate and a former Duke professor, I am especially thrilled with the announcement.

Drs. Sancar and Modrich were awarded the prize in recognition of their work with Dr. Thomas Lindahl of Britain on DNA mismatch repair. The consensus of the scientific community is that this is critically important work that could pave the way for innovative new treatments for cancer and other diseases.

Dr. Aziz Sancar is the Sarah Graham Kenan Professor of Biochemistry and Biophysics at the University of North Carolina School of Medicine. A native of Savur-Mardin, Turkey and the first Turkish-American Member of the National Academy of Sciences, Dr. Sancar runs the Sancar Lab at UNC, directing the university's biomedical research. He has called North Carolina home since 1982, and he and his wife Gwen created the Turkish House in Chapel Hill and are spearheading efforts to create a permanent Turkish Center at UNC.

Dr. Paul Modrich is the James B. Duke Professor of Biochemistry at Duke University and a Member of the Duke Cancer Institute. He has been an investigator at the Howard Hughes Medical Institute for over 20 years. He heads the Modrich Lab, which has been responsible for a number of major innovations in cancer and biomedical research. He has been at Duke since 1976.

This announcement is another important reminder that Congress must renew its commitment to research and innovation. Roughly, two-thirds of our nation's basic research is directly supported by federal agencies. Federal funding from the NIH and CDC provides researchers with critical financial support, and it is one of the most important investments we can make both for public health and the economy. Biomedical research alone creates millions of jobs and adds two dollars to the economy for every dollar invested. We must re-

verse the shortsighted cuts to research funding imposed by Congress in recent years and once again make robust investments in the sort of research conducted by Drs. Modrich and Sancar.

I join with well-wishers from North Carolina and around the world to congratulate Dr. Modrich and Dr. Sancar on their historic accomplishment, and I am proud that these two world-class leaders in biomedical research call the Triangle home.

HONORING TURLOCK CITY MANAGER ROY WASDEN

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor Turlock City Manager Roy Wasden on his retirement; and to personally thank him for his many years of dedication and profound service to the Turlock community.

Joining the City of Turlock in June of 2009, Mr. Wasden took on the chief role of city manager and became responsible for the efficient and effective management of city services. Over the course of his career, Mr. Wasden has brought large corporations to Turlock and paved the way for countless new job positions for its residents. His exemplary customer service was vital to landing these new employers to the community.

Mr. Wasden was instrumental in the construction of projects that immensely benefited the City of Turlock including the new Public Safety Facility, the Carnegie Arts Center, the development of the Regional Transit Facility, and the construction of the new affordable housing project called Avena Bella, as well as the large upgrades to the Regional Water Quality Control Facility. These successful projects were achievements that have greatly and positively impacted the economic development in Turlock.

Leading the efforts to balance the City of Turlock's budget, Mr. Wasden has executed the task with efficient management and good planning. The city is fiscally sound and continues to provide a high level of service to the community.

Before Mr. Wasden's leadership role with the City of Turlock, he spent many years in a variety of public service positions, including more than 30 years working in law enforcement. In 2000, Mr. Wasden was sworn in as Chief of Police for the City of Modesto Police Department. In 2002, the Modesto Police Department was involved in the investigation of the infamous murder case of Laci Peterson, which gained national recognition. It was under Mr. Wasden's leadership that the department was credited for successfully handling this renowned investigation. He was an asset to the police department throughout the complex case.

Mr. Wasden's proudest accomplishment is the life he created with his high school sweetheart, Linda Wasden. They have been married for 40 years and together have been blessed with 7 children and 13 grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring Turlock City Manager Roy Wasden on his retirement and thanking him for his exemplary

leadership and service to the community of Turlock. We wish him continued success in his retirement and future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING SEED'S 40TH ANNIVERSARY

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor SouthEast Effective Development (SEED), a nonprofit from Seattle, Washington, on its 40th anniversary.

SEED was founded in 1975 with the purpose of revitalizing struggling neighborhoods in Southeast Seattle. During that time, many community members lacked access to much-needed resources and the area was riddled with deteriorating infrastructure. As a result, SEED made it their mission to improve the quality of life in Southeast Seattle through a series of economic development, housing, and cultural programs.

SEED is regarded by many as having been integral to rejuvenating one of the area's most historic business districts—Columbia City—and generating several other thriving commercial areas. Other projects have included the Rainier Valley Cultural Center, Rainier Valley Square, Washington Care Center, and The Dakota at Rainier Court. SEED's approach to economic development, which includes collaborations with the private sector, government, and non-profits, has proven to be a successful model. The result has been not only new commercial development, but also increased capacity in neighborhoods to lay the groundwork for future success.

The organization's housing programs have also had a tremendous impact, including the addition of over 1,000 affordable housing units for low-income families. In 2005, one of SEED's housing development projects won the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Phoenix Award for its successful restoration of a contaminated building into a livable space. SEED is also credited for bringing the first medical clinic and the first senior living community to the area.

In addition, SEED has worked to cultivate a more active arts and cultural scene in Southeast Seattle. The SEEDarts program has remodeled several structures into art galleries and performing arts theaters, and organized cultural events that have become staple community activities. Through SEEDarts, as well as its other programs, SEED continuously strives to nurture a stronger sense of community in Southeast Seattle.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate SEED for its four decades of service to Southeast Seattle. SEED's enduring commitment to the strength and vitality of our community is truly admirable, and I look forward to hearing about their future successes.

IN RECOGNITION OF MR. CARLOS LEON-CAMPOS' RETIREMENT FROM THE OFFICE OF THE CAO

HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. BEYER. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Mr. Carlos Leon-Campos of Arlington, Virginia, on the occasion of his retirement on November 13, 2015 after more than 31 years of service to the United States House of Representatives.

Carlos Leon began his career with the House in September 1984 as a File Clerk for Congressman Bill Nichols (D-AL). Simultaneously, he held a patronage job operating the Member's elevator in the U.S. Capitol. It was while working this distinguished position that he had the occasion to meet several high-profile individuals. He greeted Tip O'Neill on arrival every day with his customary cigar. He was lucky enough to meet other notables such as Margaret Thatcher, Mikhail Gorbachev, Actor Telly Savalas, and former U.S. President, George H.W. Bush.

Carlos transitioned to work for the Clerk of the House, the esteemed Donald K. Anderson, in 1991. He truly enjoyed working for Mr. Anderson, but when the Republicans won the House in 1995, a Chief Administrative Office (CAO) was established. Carlos went on to work for Scott Faulkner, Acting CAO, and Jeff Trandahl, Clerk of the House, and in 1997, settled into the job as Inventory Account Counselor under CAO Jay Eagen. He received the Distinguished Service Award, the highest honor given by the CAO, for his exemplary service to the Office of the CAO.

He was promoted to Supervisor, Inventory under the Asset Management department, and quickly rose to Manager, Inventory for Logistics & Support under CAO Dan Strodel. Most of his career has been spent working for the Logistics & Support Department under various CAOs. After 25 years with one organization, he recently received the Employee Length of Service Award given by the House Offices.

Carlos reported to the Assistant CAO, Cam Arthur, for many years. However, most recently he has reported to Rhonda Shaffer, Director, and Tom Coyne, Chief Logistics Officer, of the newly formed Asset Management group. Carlos has always had an encyclopedic mind and knows massive amounts of historical knowledge of the House and its workings. He is beloved by his employees and they respect his leadership. His talents were recognized at a reception hosted by Ed Cassidy, CAO, on October 14, 2015, with a certificate and engraved pen, which acknowledged his contributions to supporting the new organization.

Some of his most memorable experiences in his time of working for the CAO include attending Ronald Reagan's Inauguration in the bitter cold and the Capitol Dome Tour, personally given by Congressman HARPER of Mississippi. He remembers that the view of Washington, D.C. from the Capitol Dome is breathtaking and unmatched.

In retirement, Carlos plans to move to Atlanta, Georgia, where he will pursue art and painting. He also plans to expand his hobby of attending estate sales, and to visit his family more often in Lima, Peru. Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in thanking Carlos

Leon-Campos for his service and contributions to the U.S. House of Representatives. I want to thank Carlos Leon for his commitment to public service, and I wish him and his family all the best.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. MARK TAKAI

OF HAWAII

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. TAKAI. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, November 3, 2015, I was absent from the House due to illness. Due to my absence, I am not recorded on any legislative measures for the day.

Had I been present, I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 583, the Motion on Ordering the Previous Question on the Rule providing for consideration of House Amendments to Senate Amendments to H.R. 22.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 584, the Rule providing for consideration of the House Amendments to Senate Amendments to H.R. 22.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 585, for H. Res. 354, expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 586, the Swalwell of California Part B Amendment No. 2 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 587, the Gosar of Arizona Part B Amendment No. 5 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "no" on Roll Call 588, the Ribble of Wisconsin Part B Amendment No. 14 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 589, the Brown of Florida Part B Amendment No. 15 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 590, the Lynch of Massachusetts Part B Amendment No. 29 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 591, the Takano of California Part B Amendment No. 31 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 592, the Brownley of California Part B Amendment No. 32 to Rules Print 114-32.

I would have voted "yea" on Roll Call 593, the Radewagen of American Samoa Part B Amendment No. 34 to Rules Print 114-32.

HONORING JEFF SHIELDS

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge and honor South San Joaquin Irrigation District General Manager Jeff Shields on his retirement; and to personally thank him for his many years of profound service to South San Joaquin County.

While attending college at Humboldt State University, Jeff studied biological science and natural resources management and graduated with his Bachelor's of Science degree. He has also invested time serving our great nation in the U.S. Air Force.

Working as the general manager for other irrigation companies, such as Emerald Public

Utility District in Oregon and Trinity Public Utility District in Northern California, amply prepared Jeff for his extensive role at South San Joaquin Irrigation District. He began with the company in June of 2004, and after 3 short years was appointed as the general manager.

During Jeff's tenure with South San Joaquin Irrigation District, he was instrumental in implementing successful advances to the region. A solar farm was built to provide power to the Nick C. DeGroot Water Treatment Plant which supplies the drinking water to Manteca, Lathrop and Tracy at a minimum cost. In addition, an award winning, state of the art pressurized water delivery system was built called the Division 9 Irrigation Enhancement Project. This project has received numerous state, national, and international awards and recognition.

One of Jeff's most notable contributions was successfully getting the approval for South San Joaquin Irrigation District to become the retail electric provider in its service territory. Because of this accomplishment, all current PG&E customers in Escalon, Manteca and Ripon will see a 15% rate discount. This is a great triumph for the citizens of South San Joaquin County.

With California experiencing its fourth consecutive year in a serious drought, Jeff has expertly managed the irrigation district through its most difficult water delivery year in the district's history. He is implementing a succession plan that would assure a smooth transition to new management as they continue to work through the severe drought. Jeff plans on continuing his active involvement in water and energy issues.

Being involved in the community is important to Jeff, as he is a member of the Manteca Rotary Club and a director for the Give Every Child a Chance organization. He is on the board of The Utility Reform Network, as well as the board of the Local Energy Aggregation Network.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring and commending the outstanding contributions made to the South San Joaquin County Irrigation District by the General Manager Jeff Shields. We wish him continued success in his retirement and his future endeavors.

RECOGNIZING HILARY STERN ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Hilary Stern, Executive Director at Casa Latina, on her retirement after twenty-one years of hard and dedicated work that has built opportunities and provided a voice for members of the Latino community in Seattle.

Prior to starting Casa Latina, a Seattle-based non-profit, Hilary sensed tension between the incoming Latino workers and the community at large. In response, Hilary founded Casa Latina in 1994 and began offering services on the sidewalks and in borrowed space. These services included English classes and educational street theater productions.

Despite the positive impact of these services, Hilary believed that Casa Latina could do more. This drove her to expand the scope of

Casa Latina's services to also assist members of the Latino community to achieve greater economic gains and to participate to higher degrees in civic efforts. With this vision, Hilary was able to transform Casa Latina into a large, nonprofit social organization that focused on providing a variety of educational and economic opportunities for hundreds of Latino men and women living in Seattle. These services included its previous, traditional programs, along with others, such as day labor employment, workplace safety and job skill trainings, leadership development and dealing with issues of public policy that affect immigrant workers.

After two decades at Casa Latina, Hilary recently announced that a new Executive Director would take her place in early 2016. Despite moving on from the role of Executive Director, Hilary plans to continue to be actively involved in contributing towards building a better society for everyone both within and outside of Seattle.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Hilary Stern on her outstanding work as Executive Director for Casa Latina.

RECOGNIZING SPRINGFIELD RE-MANUFACTURING CORPORATION FOR THEIR RECERTIFICATION AS A VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS STAR SITE

HON. BILLY LONG

OF MISSOURI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. LONG. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Springfield ReManufacturing Corporation's (SRC) employee owners, who have recently earned their workplace's recertification as a Voluntary Protection Programs (VPP) Star Site, making it their 20th consecutive year to be hailed with that commendation by the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA).

OSHA's VPP program encourages private industry and federal agencies to prevent workplace hazards by emphasizing better worker and management cooperation and analysis involvement. The program's goal is to achieve injury and illness rates that are below National Bureau of Labor Statistics averages for respective industries. A "Star" certification is the highest level of recognition OSHA offers, and denotes that a site has exemplary workplace standards and health management programs.

The employee owners at SRC have worked for many years to achieve this goal, and will be formally receiving their award this Friday, November 6, 2015, at a celebratory ceremony and luncheon.

Mr. Speaker, it is my pleasure to help recognize SRC for this great achievement and wish its workers a joyous and well-earned celebration of their success. The corporation's employee ownership, "Open Book Management," philosophy has clearly paid off. This commendation is proof that their employees have made Missouri's Seventh Congressional district a better place to work and, in turn, a better place to live.

HONORING THE LEGACY OF PAUL JENNINGS

HON. TOM PRICE

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. TOM PRICE of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I would like to speak about the unfortunate passing of a good friend, Paul Jennings. Having known Paul for years, including back in my time in the Georgia General Assembly, I know personally his hard work ethic and the legacy he will leave behind with those he's influenced.

After a successful marketing career in Manhattan, Paul came to the state of Georgia in 1970 to work for Decatur Federal Savings and Loan. During his two decades with the company, Paul helped Decatur Federal become a leading mortgage lender in Georgia from his position of Senior Vice President of Marketing. Paul was a leader of local and national marketing organizations, where he was able to be a mentor and role model to students and young professionals alike. From 1998 to 2002, I was able to serve alongside my friend, Paul, where he served in the Georgia State House of Representatives.

A man of Paul Jennings' integrity and compassion is hard to come by. In his free time, Paul served on the boards of the United Way, DeKalb Medical Center, arts groups, and other local nonprofits that continue to serve the people of Georgia, just as Paul did. On behalf of the Sixth District of Georgia, we extend our thoughts and prayers to Paul's wife Edna, his daughter Jan, and his sons Danny, David, and Tommy.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. BILL HUIZENGA

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. HUIZENGA of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I rise today regarding a missed vote on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Had I been present for roll call vote number 585, H. Res. 354, Expressing the sense of the House of Representatives regarding the safety and security of Jewish communities in Europe, I would have voted "yea."

RECOGNIZING JILL WAKEFIELD ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Jill Wakefield, Chancellor of Seattle Colleges, on her retirement after her forty impactful years working in higher education throughout Seattle.

Prior to becoming Chancellor in 2009, Jill was already deeply involved in the Seattle's higher education community, having served in various capacities at South Seattle College (SSC) for more than thirty years. Jill began her tenure at South Seattle College as a program assistant in the Veterans office and her

hard work resulted in a series of promotions; culminating with her tenure as President. While leading South Seattle Community College, Jill oversaw the development of leading-edge programs and upgrades to campus facilities.

Upon being named Chancellor of Seattle Colleges, Jill's focus shifted to increasing the number of four-year degrees available and leading a district-wide initiative to promote green and sustainable programs. She also facilitated numerous grants and initiatives that supported both student success and retention, such as the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation's Pathway to Completion and the City of Seattle's Pathways to Careers grants. Her success as Chancellor was quickly recognized throughout the Seattle area when she was named a 2010 Woman of Influence by the Puget Sound Business Journal, and later as one of 2012's Most Influential People by Seattle Magazine.

Jill has devoted her time and expertise to other higher education organizations as well, including service on multiple boards for Seattle University and as President of the League for Innovation at SSC. Furthermore, she has served on the National Advisory Committee of Presidents for the Association of Community College Trustees and a variety of other boards that focused on not only improving higher education, but the general well-being of people throughout Washington State.

After six years of amazing work, Jill announced earlier this year that she would retire in June. Upon her retirement, Jill leaves behind a lasting legacy as the district's first female Chancellor. Despite her departure, Jill is confident in the foundation that has been created for Seattle Community Colleges in educating the workforce of tomorrow.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Jill Wakefield on her retirement and outstanding work as the Chancellor for Seattle Colleges.

THE INTRODUCTION OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA MEDICAID REIMBURSEMENT ACT OF 2015

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, today, I introduce the District of Columbia Medicaid Reimbursement Act of 2015 as open enrollment begins this week for the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act. That important legislation, among other things, expands eligibility for Medicaid to reduce the number of Americans without health insurance. My bill increases the federal government's reimbursement for a portion of the District's Medicaid costs from 70 to 80 percent. In 2012–2013, New York City, the jurisdiction that powers the economy of New York State, contributes a 20 percent share for Medicaid costs, while the state pays 33 percent, less than the District's federally mandated 30 percent contribution.

Medicaid is financed mostly by the federal government and the states. However, the District, a city with no state to contribute to it, must alone absorb the state portion of Medicaid. Thus, the District pays for 30 percent of Medicaid, more than any U.S. city. Consid-

ering the difference in the size of its tax base, the District should certainly contribute no more than the New York City contribution to Medicaid. Therefore, my bill would raise the federal contribution to the District's Medicaid program to 80 percent, equal to that of New York City.

Under the National Capital Revitalization and Self-Government Improvement Act of 1997 (Revitalization Act), Congress recognized that state costs are inappropriate for any city to shoulder. To address this unfairness to the District, the Revitalization Act transferred certain, but not all, state responsibilities from the District to the federal government, including the cost of prisons and courts, and increased the federal Medicaid reimbursement to the District from 50 to 70 percent, partially relieving this burden. The city continues to carry many state costs, however.

In 1997, a formula error in the Medicaid Disproportionate Share Hospital allotment reduced the 70 percent Federal Medical Assistance Percentage share, and, as a result, the District received only \$23 million instead of the \$49 million it was due. I was able to secure a technical correction in the Balanced Budget Act of 1999, partially increasing the annual allotment to \$32 million from fiscal year 2000 forward. I appreciate that in 2005, Congress responded to our effort to get an additional annual increase of \$20 million in the budget reconciliation bill, bringing DC's Medicaid reimbursements to \$57 million, as intended by the Revitalization Act. However, this amount did not reimburse the District for the years the federal error denied the city part of its rightful federal contribution.

I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting the bill.

HONORING MR. TOM BORDEAUX

HON. EARL L. "BUDDY" CARTER

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. CARTER of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Savannah Alderman Tom Bordeaux and his dedicated service to the Savannah City Council.

About seven months away from the end of his four-year term, Savannah Alderman Tom Bordeaux announced that he will not run for re-election. Mr. Bordeaux is serving the final year of his first term after defeating two opponents in 2012. As an alderman at-large, Post 2, Mr. Bordeaux's district covers all of Savannah. When he announced his candidacy in 2011, Mr. Bordeaux said his priorities included building unity and focusing on sound fiscal oversight.

Mr. Bordeaux grew up in Savannah and graduated from Savannah High in 1971. He then attended the University of Georgia where he received his bachelor's degree in 1975 and his law degree in 1979. Following school, Mr. Bordeaux returned to Savannah to practice law, and has continued to practice ever since. Before joining the council, he served eight terms from 1991 to 2007 in the Georgia House of Representatives. Mr. Bordeaux was also elected dean of the Chatham County legislative delegation. Although Mr. Bordeaux has decided to not seek re-election, he hopes to continue serving the community in other ways.

Mr. Bordeaux says that his ticket to living in the Savannah area is to be involved, and that is exactly what he intends to do.

Mr. Speaker, it is my privilege to join Mr. Tom Bordeaux's colleagues, family and friends in honoring his many years of hard work and dedication to our community.

ACKNOWLEDGING MARTIN VAN BUREN SASSER, JR.

HON. JEFF DENHAM

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. DENHAM. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to acknowledge Mr. Martin Van Buren Sasser, Jr. of Tracy, for his outstanding military service as a World War II Bomber Crewman and his exceptional dedication to Southern Pacific Transportation Company as a longtime employee. The beloved husband, father, and community member passed away on October 27, 2015.

In Beatrice, Nebraska on June 9, 1924, Martin Sasser, Jr. was born to Martin and Leota Sasser. At the age of four, Martin and his family moved to Tracy, California, which became their lifelong hometown. He attended school in Tracy throughout his youth and graduated from Tracy High School in 1942. After his high school graduation, Martin became an employee of the Southern Pacific Transportation Company, which has played a vast role in railroad transportation since 1865.

After working on behalf of Southern Pacific, Martin enlisted in the U.S. Army Air Corps. He held numerous personnel positions, including that of tail-gunner and belly-gunner for the Boeing B-17 Flying Fortress during its World War II deployment. Martin completed thirty-five bombing missions out of England, towards targets residing in France and Germany and was involved in the first United States raid over Berlin. Martin also participated in one of the most notorious events of World War II, assisting in the D-Day bombing missions in support of the Normandy Landings.

At the end of World War II, Mr. Sasser returned to Tracy after passing through Fox, Oklahoma. During this passage through Oklahoma, he met his wife, Alice, whom Martin would return to Tracy with.

Once home in Tracy, Mr. Sasser returned to Southern Pacific Transportation Company, where he resumed working as a crew-dispatcher. After numerous years of diligent work, Mr. Martin Sasser retired as a Southern Pacific agent in 1984. Martin also developed and marketed a recreational balance board called the "Tilt-O-Bord." This device was not only creative, but highly enjoyable.

Martin's dedication to his community and fellow brothers and sisters in arms, both former and current, was evident through the work he did throughout Tracy. Mr. Sasser was an avid member of the James McDermott Post 172, the American Legion, Tracy Post 1537, and of the Veterans of Foreign Wars. Martin also participated in a vast number of Memorial Day and Veterans Day Services.

For a number of years, Mr. Sasser enjoyed his time entertaining hospital and rest home patients, as he was a skilled guitar, harmonica and mouth-harp player. Mr. Sasser was committed to his faith. He served as a charter member of the Grace Baptist Church and held

many positions within its congregation. Martin and his wife were able to invest their time traveling domestically and across the globe; visiting Europe, the Holy Land, Canada, and destinations throughout the United States.

The Sasser family was blessed with four children, including a daughter and three sons. The family has also been gifted with ten beautiful grandchildren and twelve great-grandchildren.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in honoring the life of the late Mr. Martin Van Buren Sasser, for his years of service and outstanding contributions to the community as well as our country.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. JOHN B. LARSON

OF CONNECTICUT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. LARSON of Connecticut. Mr. Speaker, on November 3, 2015, I was not present for roll call votes 583 through 593. If I had been present for this vote, I would have voted: Nay on roll call vote 583, Nay on roll call vote 584, Yea on roll call vote 585, Yea on roll call vote 586, Nay on roll call vote 587, Nay on roll call vote 588, Yea on roll call vote 589, Nay on roll call vote 590, Yea on roll call vote 591, Yea on roll call vote 592, Nay on roll call vote 593.

RECOGNIZING THE TACOMA HOUSING AUTHORITY FOR 75 YEARS OF SERVICE

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the Tacoma Housing Authority (THA) for its seventy-five years of service and stewardship in our community.

The THA was created in 1940 to respond to the overwhelming demand for rental housing in the Pacific Northwest. World War II created a high demand for citizens to serve their country as well as to work in factories and shipyards to assist the war effort. Tacoma faced an immediate shortage of housing for newcomers and their families, and the THA made it a priority to provide affordable housing during these turbulent times.

The Federal Government commissioned the design and speedy construction of large-scale housing developments throughout the Tacoma region. The THA managed Salishan, one of the largest housing developments with over 2,000 units. In coordinated efforts with the City of Tacoma and the U.S. military, the THA provided 3,723 housing units to individuals and families until the war ended in 1945. Salishan aged quickly during the post-war years, and by the 1990s, it needed significant renovations. In 2004, the THA received a \$35 million HOPE VI grant from the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development for its reconstruction.

Today, the THA continues to provide housing assistance to over 12,000 individuals—roughly six percent of Tacoma's overall population. The majority of these persons are low-

income families, children, seniors, or persons living with disabilities.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize the work the THA has done for the Tacoma community. Their accomplishments and contributions to Washington State have helped to shape Northwest and I am confident that the THA will continue to be a positive contributor to the community in the years to come.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. TODD C. YOUNG

OF INDIANA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 586 I was unavoidably absent in the House chamber on Tuesday, November 3, 2015. Had I been present, I would have voted "No" on Roll Call Vote 586.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. DANIEL WEBSTER

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. WEBSTER of Florida. Mr. Speaker, on roll call no. 587 I was unavoidably detained off of the House floor. Therefore, I was unable to cast my vote on Part B Amendment No. 5 to Rules Print 114–32, which required the federal government to track the total number, cost, and time required for each environmental review of transportation projects when reporting the status of these projects to the public. Had I been present, I would have voted YES.

IN TRIBUTE TO FRED DALTON THOMPSON "NOTED ATTORNEY AND ACTOR, WRITER, CHIEF COUNSEL FOR WATERGATE COMMITTEE, AND U.S. SENATOR FROM TENNESSEE"

HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to Fred Dalton Thompson, a great American, a man who personified civility; a passionate advocate for good governance, fiscal responsibility, and national security; and United States Senator from Tennessee, who died on Sunday, November 1, 2015, in Huntsville, Tennessee at the age of 73.

Born to Ruth Inez and Fletcher Session Thompson on August 19, 1942, in Sheffield, Alabama, Freddie Dalton Thompson came from humble beginnings. After graduating from Lawrence County High School, Fred Thompson then entered the University of North Alabama, becoming the first member of his family to attend college. He later transferred to the University of Memphis, where he earned a dual degree in philosophy and political science in 1964 and won a scholarship to Vanderbilt University School of Law from which he graduated with a J.D. in 1967.

After his admission to the Tennessee bar and from 1969–1972, Fred Thompson worked

as an Assistant United States Attorney where he successfully prosecuted bank robberies and other cases. In 1972, Fred Thompson managed the successful reelection campaign of U.S. Senator Howard Baker who brought him to Washington and appointed him Minority Counsel to the Senate Watergate Committee.

Fred Thompson has often been credited for formulating the question made famous by Senator Baker during the Watergate hearings: "What did the President know, and when did he know it?"

In addition to service as a United States Senator, Fred Thompson rendered valuable service to the public as Special Counsel to the Senate Foreign Relations Committee (1980–1981), Special Counsel to the Senate Intelligence Committee (1982), and Member of the Appellate Court Nominating Commission for the State of Tennessee (1985–1987).

In 1994, Fred Thompson was elected to the U.S. Senate in 1994 to fill the unexpired term of Senator Al Gore, who had been elected Vice-President and two years later was elected in a landslide to a full six-year Senate term.

During his eight years in the Senate, Fred Thompson served on the Committees on Finance, Government Affairs, and Intelligence. He retired at the end of his term in 2002 and resumed his career as film and television actor, starring for many years as Manhattan District Attorney Arthur Branch in the acclaimed television series "Law and Order."

Notable films in which Fred Thompson starred include "In the Line of Fire," "No Way Out," "Days of Thunder," "The Hunt for Red October," "Cape Fear," "Die Hard 2," "Class Action," and "Fat Man and Little Boy."

Mr. Speaker, I hope it is a comfort to Fred Thompson's widow, Jeri Kehn Thompson, and his surviving children, Freddie Jr. and Samuel, that so many persons are remembering Fred Thompson in their prayers and thoughts.

I ask that the House observe a moment of silence in memory of Fred Thompson, the distinguished U.S. Senator from Tennessee.

RECOGNIZING LORI PROVINCE ON HER RETIREMENT

HON. ADAM SMITH

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. SMITH of Washington. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor Lori Province on her retirement after nineteen years with the Washington State Labor Council (WSLC), where she has worked tirelessly on behalf of workers in Washington State.

Prior to joining the WSLC, Lori had a strong background in the labor community. She served as a union representative for the Washington State Council of County and City Employees and for Service Employees International Union (SEIU) Local 120 in Everett.

Upon joining the WSLC in 1996, Lori worked in a variety of roles including as the Field Mobilization Director as a Dislocated Worker Labor Liaison where she provided lay-off aversion services along with Trade Act and NAFTA petition development. Lori also handled outreach to inform dislocated workers about the employment and training services available through the Workforce Investment Act, along with representing their interests and beyond.

When Lori was appointed Field Mobilization Director in 2008, she supported and encouraged the participation of members from a wide variety of legislative and community programs. Her efforts were aimed at continuing the success of the WSLC's Labor Neighbor Political Program and tackling workforce training and apprenticeship issues. Lori has also been active in WSLC's Washington Industrial Safety and Health Act (WISHA) Monitoring Committee, as well as with several government task forces and councils focused on workforce development policies.

After years of tireless work, Lori announced earlier this year that she would retire in November. Despite her retirement, Lori plans on remaining active in labor causes and will no doubt continue to make a positive impact on our community.

Mr. Speaker, it is with great honor that I recognize and congratulate Lori Province on her retirement and her outstanding work in the labor community.

IN RECOGNITION OF DOUGLAS
GILDNER'S SERVICE AS FIRE
CHIEF OF THE CITY OF
SOUTHGATE

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the Fire Chief of Southgate, Michigan who is retiring this month after 27 years of service to the Southgate Fire Department, the last six as the City's Fire Chief.

Since he first started with the department in 1988, Doug has been known for being temperate and hard-working. These traits have earned him the credibility to be a consensus builder in the community and enabled him to navigate the department through good times as well as challenging times. Embodying the idea that hard work pays off, Doug has climbed the ranks in the department all the way to the top. Becoming chief in 2009, Doug's ability to build relationships with the other area chiefs has had a profound impact on strengthening morale and improving safety in the Downriver communities.

Doug has always been a member of the community first, and that's not going to change. He will continue to teach young firefighters at Schoolcraft College, preparing new teams of heroes to keep our communities safe. Doug serves as an excellent role model not only for these students, but in his newest and most important position: grandfather.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Chief Douglas Gildner for his twenty seven years of service and his lasting impact on the Downriver communities. I thank him for his leadership, and wish him many years of happiness.

HONORING BRAVE MEN AND
WOMEN WHO HAVE SERVED OUR
COUNTRY

HON. DAVID YOUNG

OF IOWA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. YOUNG of Iowa. Mr. Speaker, I rise today as we approach Veterans Day to honor the brave men and women who have served our country in uniform. Earlier this year I met with a group of young Iowans belonging to the Junior Optimists Club—they found a truly unique way to pay tribute to our Iowa veterans.

The Sidey family owned and published the Free Press in Greenfield, Iowa, for over 125 years. The Free Press would publish letters Iowa servicemen sent home to their families over the years. The Junior Optimists I met went through the Sidey's collection of soldiers' letters from World War II. They picked out the ones they found most interesting or compelling and read them aloud at a Flag Day celebration that I was fortunate to attend.

I want to share them here with my colleagues in the House of Representatives so that we and future generations may always remember the very real and human struggles our men and women face as they leave their loved ones behind to bravely serve our country with dignity, honor, and distinction.

Corporal Russell Smith, serving with the Army in North Africa, wrote the following letter dated May 23, 1943, to his sister:

Will write a few lines tonight to let you know I am getting along ok and hope this find you the same. We haven't been doing much since the war is over down here. Up to now we have been gathering and cleaning up all the German equipment that they left. There is everything from a rifle up to an airplane. Lots of tanks and big guns. They burned about everything though, so it isn't much good for anything except iron. I didn't know they had as much stuff in the whole German army as I've seen here in the last couple of weeks. Right now that is for a week. Believe it nor not, we are on a week's vacation on the beach of the Mediterranean. We have to do a little fishing in the forenoon but in the afternoon we can do anything we like, go boating, swimming, play ball or drink wine or just lay around and sleep. This probably isn't all as good as it sounds but it's sure a good break for after what we've been through. I've had some pretty good experiences or I might say not so good. We had everything from mortar shells to bombs dropped on us and sometimes I thought every Hynie in the German army was firing machine guns and rifles at us. We were pinned down several times, but the longest was one day when we were attacking a hill and pinned down about 6 in the morning and had to lay there all day with only a little bunch of grass in front of some of us, and some didn't even have that. Didn't hardly dare wiggle a finger or they would let go everything that they had, and I mean we didn't move until it got dark. Didn't take a drink of water or smoke a cigarette, and boy it was hot. Les was also in that same battle the day before. That's about all I can tell you about it so will call it enough.

The following are a few extracts from a letter written by Sgt. Ernest L. "Budd" Jenkins dated June 23, 1943 from Camp Shelby, Mississippi to his Aunt and Uncle—Mr. and Mrs. Charley Gillham.

I have a good excuse for not answering your letter sooner as I have been in the field on firing problems and naturally there is no way of writing letters while out in the woods. That's some life, setting our big guns in position and firing in the heat of the day about 102 all day long. Then black-out driving at pitch dark into another position to make a surprise attack on the enemy. When we finally slow up to see if we can get a few hours sleep we battle mosquitoes, insects, lizards and snakes and finally roll up in stubborn sleep, when bang "Fire Mission" and we roll out to produce fire from our guns. We like it and we'll do it until we're tops, so darn good that when we go over there we'll have Nazis and [Japanese] running in every direction. Look what the artillery did to the Germans over in Africa. I can't tell you how happy I am to do my bit. I'm only one in about 10,000 trying to get to do my bit. I hope all of you are well and happy. I'd like awfully well to see you.

Write soon,

BUDD.

Private Floyd Stimen, September 11, 1943, while serving in Italy:

I sure will be glad when this war is over and everything is back to normal. Am pretty sure I am going out of the Navy for I want a normal home and a decent job and few of the things they are promising us now. All I have to say is that they better make those promises good. For these fellows are sure counting on it, and there will be enough of them to make it pretty hot if they don't make good on their promises. I am so damn tired of all this fighting when all you have to look forward to is going to sea again with duty 16 and 18 hours a day.

I guess my stay in the hospital has spoiled me. I know it softened me up a lot for I lost over 20 pounds but have started to gain it back again now. I kinda miss seeing all those good looking nurses around but I guess it's just as well for they had me spoiled. They are really a swell bunch of people. (I in particular) for she always treated me well. She used to get me special food and ice cream, anything I wanted and the rest of the patients had to take what they got. I can tell you now, I am well and out of there but you about lost your "little boy Floydie" for a couple of times I about bled to death and they had to give me transfusions but that's all in the past and forgotten. I am going to take the nurse that was good to me out to dinner and a show Monday night to show my appreciation.

Well folks, I am about run down so will close for this time. I hope you are all ok. Write me at the new address. Tell everyone hello for me.

All my love,

FLOYD.

This letter was received by Mr. and Mrs. Charles Beaman of Canby, Iowa from Technical Sergeant Adam C. Wygonik of Chicago, who was brought back to the United States on the SS *Gripsholm*, concerning their son, Sgt. Howard Beaman, a prisoner of war in Germany.

SEPTEMBER 25, 1943.

I am a very good friend of your son, Howard. I've been in the same squadron with him and even flew him in the same ship. We were also in the same camp in Germany, and when I left the camp in August (to be repatriated) Howard was in the best of health and feeling like a million. He is getting your mail and parcels quite regularly now (even though it takes six months to get there) and he sure does enjoy them. All last winter Howard was my bridge partner and all summer long he has been pretty busy managing "Beaman's Demons" baseball team there in camp. I

hope to be seeing Howard again, and I hope you'll see Howard at home very soon.

A letter to Mr. And Mrs. James Kralik of Nevinville from their son Corporal Roy Kralik, then a German prisoner of war:

DEAR FOLKS:

I suppose you are wondering about our Christmas here. It was all real nice under the circumstances. Had the barracks all decorated and a tree for each. Really looked nice and the spirit was high. The Red Cross put out a special Christmas parcel along with the regular parcel, so we were able to have fruit cake, candy, all kinds of spreads and the like, along with our regular meals. Eight of us boys cooked up our meal together and had a nice time along with a good meal. DeWayne and I baked a bunch of cupcakes so along with them we had fruit cake, candy and coffee, mashed potatoes, fried prem, bread, butter, jam, peanut butter and biscuits. Had special church services, a camp show, and all in all, it passed my expectations by far. Here's hoping you all had a nice Christmas and that everyone is well. Had a letter from Colleen and some more from you.

Best wishes,

ROY.

The following are a few extracts from a letter written by PFC Gerald L. Corey while stationed at Nashville Tennessee, to his mother, Mrs. Fred Heuckendorf.

It snowed Monday. We were up at 6:00 and stood guard until the truck came to take us on a truck ride. We waited all day until 5:00 that afternoon. Couldn't have any fires and it was cold as the dickens. We started out on what was supposed to be 100 miles. About midnight our truck slid off into a ditch and we were there about three hours. Everybody was cold, tired, and hungry. We were a sad bunch. We reached Carthage, Tennessee, about noon. They sure have some hills here. The sun was shining and it was warm but muddy. Finally had a meal, not much I had some candy bars, they come in handy. Enemy planes were flying over us all the time, had to keep down, it seemed pretty realistic. We pulled out and started walking about 7:30, Tuesday night until 2 o'clock in the morning. We were warm while hiking but when we laid down it was cold: we rested until 5:30. The enemy were about 5 hours walk from where we were so we started walking again meeting the enemy about eleven o'clock Wednesday morning and drove them back into the hills. We walked again two miles into Hickman, Tennessee. The General stopped us there and said the problem was over, about four o'clock. We were served sandwiches and coffee. We couldn't get to our rest camp until Thursday a.m. We had to wait and our bed rolls hadn't come. It started to rain. We headed for farmer's barns, hog sheds, hen houses, etc. Our bed rolls came Thursday a.m. at 3:00. It continued to pour down. Everybody was soaked. Nobody pitched tents but went back to the barns. We had breakfast at 6:30. Our trucks didn't come and we stayed in the barns till 6 that night, then moved to town and slept in a warehouse, it was cold and damp. Our trucks didn't come when it stopped raining Friday morning so we moved to the top of a big hill and pitched tents for the night, first good night's sleep for nearly a week. We start out on another problem Monday morning. The colonel said it wouldn't be as bad as the last one. The colonel and the general praised us on the way we came through the problem as it was 4 times worse than they had expected. If you want to send me anything just make it anything to eat. A small truck came out from town with cakes, candy bars, and ice

cream. Some scramble to get any of it! This is a wonderful life.

Love,

GARY.

Corporal John Gildemiester, Jr., son of Mr. and Mrs. J.H. Gildemiester, wrote from Iran.

Everything is still going swell. I have been in a hospital with an attack of appendicitis but recovered without an operation. I have had the pleasure of meeting an American missionary who has been here for twenty years. Have also seen several Biblical monuments which are real interesting.

In some parts of the country [there] are wheat fields, which are cut with a sickle and the bundles hauled home on mule's backs. They have a little machine with pointed wooden wheels which they run over the pile of bundles many times to thrash out the grain.

The bread is flat somewhat similar to rye crisp. I ate some fresh gazelle meat the other day, which was very good, however we do not have it very often. There is no steak to be had here at any price. We are unable to get any American station on the radio over here.

The following letter was received by Miss Elnora Smith of Orient concerning her brother, Sgt. Russell Smith, who was serving in Italy, and whose parents were dead.

FEB. 1, 1943.

MR. SMITH,

I do not know whether this letter will reach you or not as I do not know what your first name is but will try and see what happens. Your son, Sgt. Russell Smith, who is now serving with the armed forces in Italy and my son, Sgt. Ronald Greiman are very good friends so Ronald tells us. Now we have had three letters from Ronald today, saying he has been wounded in action somewhere between Dec. 25 and Jan. 10. He was hit by machine gun fire in his leg below the knee, and he said it was your son that helped rescue him. He said when he was hit in the leg and fell to the ground, he rolled himself down the hill or cliff and when your son, Sgt. Smith saw what happened, he ran to help him and carried him to safety under heavy machine gun fire. Then Sgt. Smith and another sergeant sent for some stretcher bearers and they carried our son 16 miles down the mountains till they came to a road where he could be hauled to some hospital. Sgt. Smith also bandaged his wounds as soon as he carried him to safety.

Now I want to tell you how grateful we are for what Sgt. Smith has done for our son, Sgt. Greiman, and when you write to your son, I wish you would mention this to him also. Ronald writes he has had his leg operated on and is getting along as well as could be expected. He says the doctors tell him that it will take 3 or 4 months to heal the wounds and 3 or 4 more months before he can get around on it. He also said he would be moved to Africa to some hospital there. Says his big worry now is wondering how his buddies are getting along that he left behind.

So we can see how these boys really get attached to one another. When you write to your son, I wish you would tell him how Ronald is doing and tell him that he was taken to Africa, then perhaps they can get in touch with each other. May God be with our sons and all other boys at the fighting fronts.

H.A. GRIEMAN.

Mr. Speaker, these are the words of brave men. And they ring as true today as they did over seventy years ago when they were written. They embody the ideals of this great nation and the ethos of our armed forces that have fought, sacrificed, and died for our country so that we can remain free.

Next week when we recognize these men and women on Veterans Day, look them in the

eye and say "Thank You." They know all too well what the words in these letters mean. And for their bravery and sacrifices, they deserve our unwavering gratitude and respect. May God bless them. And may God bless these United States of America.

IN RECOGNITION OF TIM
DURAND'S SERVICE AS MAYOR
OF RIVERVIEW

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Tim Durand for his 20 years of service as mayor of Riverview, Michigan.

First elected to office in 1987, Tim served a total of six years on the city council before being elected mayor in 1995. He has faithfully and honorably represented the citizens of Riverview for over 26 years, and his retirement is a huge loss to many. He has helped build Riverview into a thriving community, spearheading many projects, including the Riverview Municipal Building and the municipal boat launch, tennis courts, baseball diamonds, extensive senior citizen organized activities and 12 public parks. Often seen riding his bicycle, Tim is well-known for engaging citizens all over the city. He inspires participation in community efforts and leads by example, regularly sponsoring charity and booster events in Riverview. His commitment to the community is only matched by his dedication to his wife and two children, who have graciously shared Tim with us for more than two decades.

Tim's positive impact on the community is not limited to the city of Riverview. He has been a pivotal member of the Downriver Community Conference, serving as a past chair of this important regional development organization. The Dean of mayors in downriver communities of Michigan, he served with over 100 mayors and supervisors from area communities during the time he was mayor. He was always supportive, kind, and encouraging. His dedication to regional cooperation has made our downriver communities safer, more efficient, and more prepared to deal with the challenges of the 21st Century.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Tim Durand for his 20 years of service as mayor of Riverview. I thank him for his leadership, and wish him many years of success.

TRIBUTE TO THE LATE HOWARD
COBLE

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, it is with great sorrow that I acknowledge the passing of Congressman Howard Coble, but with great joy that I recall his storied career as a public servant, and with even greater joy that I recall our significant friendship.

Mr. Coble represented North Carolina's 6th Congressional District from 1985 until his retirement in 2015, making him the longest-serving Republican House member in the state's

history. I remember his leadership on the Judiciary Internet subcommittee, where he advocated for protecting online content and worked tirelessly to make illegal streaming a felony.

Though I disagreed with him often on policy, we became great friends, most particularly through our official travels. I am now occupying his former office in the Rayburn House Office Building. In public, Congressman Coble had a sterling reputation as a man of integrity and principle, a representative who stood by his commitments. In person, his deep character was outweighed only by his affability. Perhaps that is one of the reasons he became the longest-serving Republican in North Carolina history.

Mr. Speaker, tonight Congress has lost the presence of one of its most humble and hard-working representatives. Congressman Coble's loss will be deeply felt among many, but his work will not. His caring nature and hard work he possessed will live forever.

CONGRATULATIONS TO TUNISIAN NOBEL PEACE PRIZE WINNERS

HON. DAVID E. PRICE

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. PRICE of North Carolina. Mr. Speaker, as Ranking Member of the House Democracy Partnership, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet for receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. This remarkable group of Tunisian leaders and advocates has worked tirelessly to transition their country into a robust democracy after the Jasmine Revolution of 2011.

The Arab Spring sparked hope throughout the international community at the possibility of a new day for democracy and human rights in the Middle East. Unfortunately, in many countries that underwent revolution, the hope of positive change has not come to pass. Tunisia, however, has made great progress, and the Tunisian people have had great success developing their own parliamentary democracy in the wake of the Arab Spring. Much of this progress is thanks to the work of The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet.

The Tunisian National Dialogue Quartet is composed of four different civic groups: the Tunisian General Labor Union, the Tunisian Confederation of Industry, Trade, and Handicrafts, The Tunisian Human Rights League, and the Tunisian Order of Lawyers. These four organizations represent a broad coalition that has sought to create and sustain a new democracy. Throughout the process of adopting a new constitution, holding elections, and governing responsively, Tunisia has depended on the values of toleration and inclusion, and a willingness on the part of contending parties to forgo extreme or exclusive demands—exactly what the National Dialogue Quartet has espoused.

As a National Democratic Institute election observer, and working through the House Democracy Partnership, I was privileged to witness a product of the Quartet's work last year when Tunisia held its first successful presidential elections. The Tunisian people went to the polls proudly and peacefully, engaging in the building of a parliamentary democracy that has already achieved a substantial amount and shows great promise for the future.

To be sure, great challenges remain, and the international community, including the House Democracy Partnership, must continue supporting Tunisia in its first steps as a new democracy. As the Tunisian people work to ensure effective and open governance and functioning democratic institutions, they are fortunate to have the leadership of advocates like the National Dialogue Quartet.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE LIFE OF SIR MICHAEL BERRY

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, on November 8th, I will attend the commemoration services for Sir Michael Berry; an icon and leader in the Michigan community. Michael Berry was a son, a devoted father, a loving husband, and a pioneer in the community.

Sir Michael Berry graduated from Fordson Junior College and Wayne College and in 1949, he became the first Muslim American to become a practicing attorney in the State of Michigan. He then formed a legal practice Berry, Hopson & Francis with his associates. In 1967, he won election to the Wayne County Road Commission, where he served for sixteen years, ten of which, he served as the chairman. Sir Michael Berry used his energy and enthusiasm to always give back to the community. He endowed a scholarship at the MSU College of Law, and he gave generously to so many of our great local universities, hospitals, and cultural institutions. Believing that education is a key to success, he was pivotal in the creation of the Michael Berry Career Center at the Dearborn Public schools and worked tireless to improve access to education for our children.

Sir Michael Berry gave so much to the community over the years, without ever asking anything in return for himself. His hard work and continuous involvement with the Detroit Metro Airport inspired the Airport Authority to name the Berry international terminal in his honor. He was awarded the Ellis Island Medal of Honor from the National Ethnic Coalition Organization and was given the Knight of the National Order of the Cedar of Lebanon which is considered one of the highest and most prestigious awards for his humanitarian aid to his homeland, and for which, he came to be called Sir Michael Berry.

Perhaps the most lasting legacy that Sir Michael Berry leaves is on the people he mentored and people he loved. He was an activist, a mentor, and advisor to many. He helped mold several generations of educators, elected officials, attorneys, and other professionals. In our community, he was considered an icon, but to his family he was known as a loving husband, father, brother, grandfather and great-grandfather. Based on the values of hard work, faith, and love, I know that his family will proudly carry on his legacy into the future.

Mr. Speaker, Sir Michael Berry lived a life worth celebrating. No words can ease the loss that is felt by his family or this community, but we take solace in the knowledge that his example will live on for many generations. I ask my colleagues today to honor Sir Michael

Berry on his extraordinary life and accomplishments.

OUTSTANDING TEACHER IN KATY, TEXAS

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Rebecca Lacquey of Katy High School for receiving the 2015 Outstanding Teaching of the Humanities Award.

Mrs. Lacquey is one of only twelve humanities teachers in all of Texas to receive this prestigious award. Her dedication to bringing history to life through unique methods such as role-playing and virtual field trips makes history more fun and relatable to her students. Mrs. Lacquey's methods continually enrich the lives of her students. Katy High School is lucky to have her. We wish her continued teaching success for many more years to come.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations once again to Mrs. Rebecca Lacquey for winning this Outstanding Teacher award.

HONORING RETIRED JUDGE JOHN McCANN, 2015 WESTBOROUGH GOOD SCOUT HONOREE

HON. JAMES P. MCGOVERN

OF MASSACHUSETTS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. MCGOVERN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor retired Judge John S. McCann, who will be recognized at the 2015 Westborough Good Scout Award Dinner held by the Knox Trail Council of the Boy Scouts of America in Westborough, Massachusetts.

At the heart of the Scout Oath that Boy Scouts take is the pledge to 'help other people at all times.' Throughout his career, Judge McCann has been a shining example of this commitment to always serving others.

A resident of Westborough, Judge McCann is a graduate of the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester and the University of Vanderbilt School of Law in Tennessee. He and his wife Suzanne are active members of St. Luke the Evangelist Parish in Westborough, were foster parents for five years, and have three children, Sean, Gaylen and Aidan.

Judge McCann knew from an early age that he wanted to pursue a career in law. His first grammar school composition as a third-grader at the Blessed Sacrament School on Pleasant Street was titled, "Why I Want to Become a Lawyer."

Following law school, Judge McCann practiced law in California, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, and Maine. Judge McCann returned to Massachusetts in 1970 and has since resided in Westborough. Before he became a judge, he maintained law offices in Westborough and Worcester.

It wasn't until 1993 that he aspired to become a judge, when fellow members of the Worcester County Bar Association encouraged him to apply for the Westborough District

Court judgeship. He was appointed to the post by Gov. William F. Weld, and in 2000 was nominated by Gov. A. Paul Cellucci to the Superior Court bench. He then served as a Recall Judge for four years; and retired again in 2014.

Judge McCann has been an active member of our community through his work with Westborough Community Fund, Chamber of Commerce, Capital Expenditures Committee, Armstrong Jr. High Parent Association; Westborough Human Rights Council, Amnesty International, and Lawyers Against Nuclear Arms World Jurist Association. He was a member and officer of the Worcester Bar Association, Worcester Bar Advocates, Worcester Bar Foundation, and Legal Assistance Corporation.

Judge McCann is also an avid fly fisherman and has said that in retirement, he aims "to find a lot of rivers" and spend quality time with his grandchildren, Conor and Mairead McCann.

After a long and illustrious career, dedicated to helping others and upholding the law, I cannot think of a better way for him to spend his second retirement. I am grateful to Judge McCann for all that he has done for Massachusetts families and communities.

CONNECTING FORT BEND COUNTY

HON. PETE OLSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mr. OLSON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Fort Bend County Public Transportation for being honored by the Mamie George Community Center.

Each year, the Mamie George Community Center honors organizations that demonstrate a strong commitment to improving Fort Bend County. The Department of Transportation received this award for its work with the Mamie George Community Center to develop a new system of transportation for seniors in the Richmond/Rosenberg area. Through their efforts, the organizations created new bus routes to give seniors the ability to live independently and stay active in their community.

On behalf of the Twenty-Second Congressional District of Texas, congratulations again to Fort Bend County Public Transportation for this honor. Thank you for your commitment to seniors and to Fort Bend County.

KIDS TEACHING KIDS PROGRAM

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of the Kids Teaching Kids program within Medical City Children's Hospital which was created in 2010. Tonight, Kids Teaching Kids holds its 21 Day Challenge kickoff event, where eight Dallas area superintendents and community leaders will join together to teach kids healthy snacking habits.

During the 21 Day Challenge, culinary high school students work with a Medical City Chil-

dren's Hospital registered dietician to learn nutrition basics. The students use that knowledge to make snack recipes for elementary school students to prepare for themselves. School districts in the Dallas area are getting involved in the program and encouraging their students to participate in the challenge.

The Kids Teaching Kids program has seen tangible results. Kids in the Dallas community are making healthier choices inside and outside of school. In 2014, 4,500 students signed up for the 21 Day Challenge and 900 completed the challenge. Before the challenge, 16.8% of kids said that they did not eat healthy snacks. After the challenge, 83.6% of those 16.8% said that they were eating more fruits and vegetables after the challenge.

The impact of this program in our community is visible. The Texas Restaurant Association and the Greater Dallas Restaurant Association actively support the program. School districts of Dallas, Richardson, Plano, Desoto, Rockwall, Irving, Carrollton, Lewisville, Frisco, Prosper, Allen, and Wylie currently participate in the program.

Thank you to Medical City Children's Hospital for supporting this program and for allowing it to flourish. We need more innovative ideas of this nature in every metropolitan area in this country. With the support of our peers, we can work to change our habits to become a healthier community.

HONORING THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF JAMES B. ANGELL ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the achievements of James B. Angell Elementary School. For over eight decades, Angell Elementary school has benefited our community through its dedication to the education and development of Ann Arbor's youth. The U.S. Department of Education recognized this commitment by naming the school a 2015 National Blue Ribbon Award recipient.

Founded in 1923, Angell Elementary is one of Ann Arbor's oldest elementary schools. The school's prominence in core curriculum classes such as Mathematics, English, and Science led students to perform in the top fifteen percent of all Michigan students on state administered assessments. This earned the school the title of "Exemplary High Performing School", and led the Michigan Department of Education to nominate the school for the National Blue Ribbon Award.

The school's mission is, "To provide an uncommon education to the common man." Although Angell Elementary's core curriculum classes are exceptional, it is the enrichment programs offered by the school that allow it to thrive. The programs provide students with the unique opportunity to engage in their community. The school partners with the University of Michigan and takes students through the University's various history museums and scientific laboratories. The school takes great efforts to promote the arts as well, providing students with trips to art museums in Toledo and Detroit, as well locally in Ann Arbor.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor the teachers, students and parents of James B. Angell Elementary school for their commitment to maintaining a standard of excellence that best prepares the leaders of our future.

ST. NICKS ALLIANCE ANNUAL AWARDS BENEFIT AND 40TH AN- NIVERSARY CELEBRATION

HON. NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Ms. VELÁZQUEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize St. Nicks Alliance, a community based non-profit organization created in North Brooklyn during the fiscal crisis of New York City in the 1970s. This year it celebrates its 40th Anniversary on November 9, 2015.

St. Nicks Alliance, formerly known as the St. Nicholas Neighborhood Preservation Corp., emerged in 1975 at the height of a nationwide grassroots movement to preserve and improve urban neighborhoods in decline. In Williamsburg, Brooklyn, a group of concerned and determined residents and business owners, and Msgr. Walter J. Vetro, pastor of St. Nicholas R. C. Church, came together and initiated neighborhood-based efforts to improve the community's physical and economic conditions. This led to the incorporation of the organization.

As we know, some groups are formed to address an issue on their block; Msgr. Vetro and the volunteers mobilized to address the issues of the greater neighborhood. The organization launched an action plan that aimed to address a range of issues and concerns that included public safety, crime, and drugs; tenants' rights, abandoned housing, and housing discrimination; environmental and public health issues, such as toxic waste dumping, lead paint, and pollution; community reinvestment, redlining, and related matters; economic development, job training, and manufacturing closings; youth, education, and recreation; and municipal services delivery.

Today, forty years later, St. Nicks Alliance has created 1,700 units of affordable housing for low income families, seniors and persons with disabilities and manages more than 1,000 units of housing in North Brooklyn. It has helped residents secure federal assistance ranging from Section 8 housing assistance, weatherization programs, to new market tax credits, which serve as resources to fuel job creation and development. It has collaborated with the public and private sector to deliver comprehensive programming to the community. This includes summer and after-school enrichment services to 2,500 young people; elder care and adult health and fitness programs, onsite service coordination; homeownership training, small business development and business retention assistance. Its workforce development program, like the federally funded Environmental Response & Remediation Technician Program successfully trained, certified and placed local residents to work the field of environmental response and remediation services. It is recognized for the comprehensive ready to work service it delivers.

St. Nicks Alliance is a part of the fabric of the Williamsburg and Greenpoint community.

My district is enriched and indebted to them for their service to advance the betterment of the North Brooklyn community.

The outstanding accomplishments made by St. Nicks Alliance during its proud, 40-year history are a testament to the excellent work of so many dedicated professional employees and partners and leadership of Michael Rochford, Executive Director and Board Members, past and present.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to congratulate the St. Nicks Alliance in Brooklyn, New York for its commendable and exemplary work and wish it many years of continued success.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE SERVICE
OF MS. KAY VARTANIAN

HON. DEBBIE DINGELL

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, November 4, 2015

Mrs. DINGELL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate Ms. Kay Vartanian for her distinguished military career and service to the City of Dearborn.

Born on January 15th, 1914, Ms. Vartanian has been a lifelong resident of Dearborn. At the peak of World War II, she enlisted in the United States Army to actively support the war effort. She was stationed at Fort Ogelthorpe, Georgia until her honorable discharge on January 11, 1946. For her sacrifice and hard work for our country, Ms. Vartanian was awarded the Victory Medal, the American Theater

WAAC Service Ribbon, and the Good Conduct Medal. After serving her country, she returned to Dearborn.

As Ms. Vartanian reaches the age of 101, she has become the oldest female veteran in our area. Throughout her life, especially through her faith community, Ms. Vartanian has dedicated her life to the service of others. Kay has been an important member of her church and is loved by all of her friends and neighbors. To many, she is considered part of their family.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today to honor Ms. Kay Vartanian on her distinguished military service and to celebrate her extraordinary work for the Dearborn community and the nation.

SENATE COMMITTEE MEETINGS

Title IV of Senate Resolution 4, agreed to by the Senate of February 4, 1977, calls for establishment of a system for a computerized schedule of all meetings and hearings of Senate committees, subcommittees, joint committees, and committees of conference. This title requires all such committees to notify the Office of the Senate Daily Digest—designated by the Rules Committee—of the time, place and purpose of the meetings, when scheduled and any cancellations or changes in the meetings as they occur.

As an additional procedure along with the computerization of this infor-

mation, the Office of the Senate Daily Digest will prepare this information for printing in the Extensions of Remarks section of the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD on Monday and Wednesday of each week.

Meetings scheduled for Thursday, November 5, 2015 may be found in the Daily Digest of today's RECORD.

MEETINGS SCHEDULED

NOVEMBER 10

9:30 a.m.

Committee on Armed Services

To hold hearings to examine 30 years of Goldwater-Nichols reform.

SD-G50

NOVEMBER 17

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold hearings to examine past wild-fire seasons to inform and improve future Federal wildland fire management strategies.

SD-366

NOVEMBER 19

10 a.m.

Committee on Energy and Natural Resources

To hold an oversight hearing to examine the Well Control Rule and other regulations related to offshore oil and gas production.

SD-366